



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia & Kings Canyon
National Parks

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Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks Fire Update

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Prescribed Fire Planned for Early Next Week in Cedar Grove

On the afternoon of Monday June 19, fire crews plan to begin ignitions on the 120-acre Horse Trail Prescribed Fire in the Cedar Grove area of Kings Canyon National Park. Located at 4,600 feet in elevation, the objective of the burn is to reduce fuels and maintain healthy conditions in the mixed conifer forest. Hand-held drip torches will be used to ignite the burn over approximately two days.

The prescribed fire is located near Zumwalt Meadow on both sides of the main road. The only closed trail will be the path known as the “Horse Trail” as it passes through the fire perimeter. Roads in Cedar Grove will remain open with possible delays due to smoke. Please use caution while driving in the area since there may be firefighters and equipment on the roads.

Fire Education

The parks’ new mobile learning center, called “The Fire Place,” will also be on scene near the prescribed fire. This small cargo trailer is decorated with three hand painted murals depicting fire activities in the foothills, a sequoia grove, and in the high sierra. It houses exhibits and activities for children and adults to learn more about fire history, ecology, and management.

Reducing Exposure to Smoke

Over the next few days, Cedar Grove campgrounds may receive some smoke at night. Areas up-canyon from Zumwalt Meadow may be smoky during the day. The parks will work closely with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District to manage smoke production and reduce local impacts.

Please use caution while driving and plan your outdoor activities for times and places with low smoke levels. Park residents and visitors in the area who are sensitive to smoke or have pre-existing respiratory problems should limit their outdoor activities and keep windows in buildings closed during the burn. Drink water, eat a balanced diet, and get adequate rest. If you have heart or lung disease, asthma or emphysema, be diligent about following your physician’s instructions. Extended smoke exposure is harmful to human health and should be avoided. When inhaled, smoke can cause symptoms similar to a cold or allergies. Most symptoms subside after the smoke is gone.

www.nps.gov/seki/fire/fireinfo/current.htm